

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification with regard to the identified paragraph:

Page 4, second full paragraph, please amend as follows:

Exterior-side spreading element 16, 116 on its spreadable main body 23, 123 has ~~an~~ a single inner cone, or interior taper 27, 127, whose slope corresponds to that of outer cone, or exterior taper 22, 122 of interior element 17, 117. According to the graphic depiction, interior element 17, 117 is accommodated without play in spreading element 16, 116, which is oriented in the contrary direction, outer cone 22, 122 being shorter than inner cone 27, 127. In accordance with the depicted arrangement, inner cone, or interior taper 27, 127 of spreading element 16, 116 opens towards inner tube 11, 111. By way of example, spreading element 16, 116 can be made of plastic, and interior element 17, 117 can be made of metal or plastic.